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acrylic fiber *n* (1951): a quick-drying synthetic textile fiber made by polymerization of acrylonitrile usu. with other monomers
acrylic resin *n* (1936): a glassy thermoplastic made by polymerizing acrylic or methacrylic acid or a derivative of either and used for cast and molded parts or as coatings and adhesives
acry-ry-lo-ni-trile \ə-kṛ-ṛə-lō-ni-trīl-, -trēl- *n* (1893): a colorless volatile flammable liquid nitrile C₃H_{3.5}N used chiefly in organic synthesis and for polymerization
act \əkt- *n* [ME, partly fr. *L. actus* doing, act, fr. *agere* to drive, do; partly fr. *L. actum* thing done, record, fr. neut. of *actus*, pp. of *agere* — more at AGENT] (14c) 1 *a*: the doing of a thing: DEED *b*: something done voluntarily 2: a state of real existence rather than possibility 3: the formal product of a legislative body: STATUTE *also*: a decision or determination of a sovereign, a legislative council, or a court of justice 4: the process of doing: ACTION (caught in the ~) 5 *often cap*: a formal record of something done or transacted 6: one of the principal divisions of a theatrical work (as a play or opera) 7 *a*: one of successive parts or performances (as in a variety show or circus) *b*: the performer or performers in such an act *c*: a performance or presentation identified with a particular individual or group *d*: the sum of a person's actions or effects that serve to create an impression or set an example (as hard ~ to follow) 8: a display of affected behavior: PRETENSE
act *vt* (1594) 1 *a*: to represent or perform by action esp. on the stage 2: FEIGN, SIMULATE *c*: IMPERSONATE 2 *obs*: ACTUATE, ANIMATE 3: to play the part of as if in a play (~ the man of the world) 4: to behave in a manner suitable to (~ your age) ~ *vi* 1 *a*: to perform on the stage 2: to behave as if performing on the stage: PRETEND 2 *a*: to take action: MOVE (think before ~ing) (~ed favorably on the recommendation) 3: to conduct oneself: BEHAVE (~ like a fool) 4: to perform a specified function: SERVE (trees ~ing as a windbreak) 5: to produce an effect: WORK (wait for a medicine to ~) 6 *of a play*: to be capable of being performed (the play ~s well) 7: to give a decision or award (adjudured without ~ing on the bill) — act-abil-ty \əkt-ə-bi-lə-tē *n* — act-able \əkt-ə-bəl *adj*
Ac-tae-on \əkt-ē-ōn *n* [*L*, fr. Gk *Aktaiōn*] : a hunter turned into a stag and killed by his own hounds for having seen Artemis bathing
ACTH \ä-(h)s-(h)ē-äch- *n* [adrenocorticotrophic hormone] (1944): a protein hormone of the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland that stimulates the adrenal cortex — called also *adrenocorticotrophic hormone*
ac-tin \əkt-ən *n* [ISV, fr. *L. actus*] (1942): a cellular protein found esp. in microfilaments (as those comprising myofibrils) and active in muscular contraction, cellular movement, and maintenance of cell shape
actin- or actini- or actino- *comb form* [NL, ray, fr. Gk *aktin-, aktino-, fr. aktin-, aktis*; perb. akin to OE *ahht* morning twilight, *l. noct-, nox* night — more at NIGHT] 1: having a radiate form (actinolite) 2: actinic radiation (as X rays) (actinometer)
act-ing \əkt-ŋg *n* (1664): the art or practice of representing a character on a stage or before cameras
act-ing *adj* (1797) 1: holding a temporary rank or position: performing services temporarily (~ president) 2 *a*: suitable for stage performance (an ~ play) *b*: prepared with directions for actors (an ~ text of a play)
ac-tin-i-an \əkt-ṭi-nē-ən *n* [NL *actinia*, fr. Gk *aktin-, aktis*] (1888): *SEE* ANEMONE
ac-tin-ic \əkt-ṭi-nik- *adj* (1844): of, relating to, resulting from, or exhibiting actinism — *ac-tin-i-cal-ly* \ə-kt-ṭi-kəl-ē *adv*
ac-ti-nide \əkt-ṭi-nid- *n* [ISV] (1945): any of the members of the series of elements that begins with actinium or thorium and ends with lawrencium — *SEE* PERIODIC TABLE
ac-ti-nism \əkt-ṭi-ni-zəm *n* (1844): the property of radiant energy esp. in the visible and ultraviolet spectral regions by which chemical changes are produced
ac-tin-i-um \əkt-ṭi-nē-əm *n* [NL] (1900): a radioactive trivalent metallic element that resembles lanthanum in chemical properties and that is found esp. in pitchblende — *SEE* ELEMENT TABLE
ac-tin-o-lite \əkt-ṭi-nī-ŭt- *n* (ca. 1828): a bright or grayish green amphibole occurring in fibrous, radiate, or columnar forms
ac-tin-o-m-e-ter \əkt-ṭə-nā-mō-tər- *n* (1833): any of various instruments for measuring the intensity of incident radiation; esp.: one in which the intensity of radiation is measured by the speed of a photochemical reaction — *ac-ti-no-me-tric* \-nō-me-trik- *adj* — *ac-ti-no-m-e-try* \-nā-mō-trē- *n*
ac-ti-no-mor-phic \əkt-ṭi-nō-mōr-fik-, -tō-nō-, əkt-ṭi-nō- *adj* [ISV] (1900): being radially symmetrical and capable of division by any longitudinal plane into essentially symmetrical halves (an ~ tulip flower) — *ac-ti-no-mor-phy* \əkt-ṭi-nō-mōr-fē-, əkt-ṭi-nō- *n*
ac-ti-no-my-cēs \əkt-ṭi-nō-mī-sē-, -tō-nō-, əkt-ṭi-nō- *n*, *pl* *actinomyces* [NL, genus name, fr. *actin-* + Gk *mykēt-, mykēs* fungus; akin to Gk *myxa* mucus — more at MUCUS] (1882): any of a genus (*Actinomyces*) of filamentous or rod-shaped bacteria that includes usu. commensal and sometimes pathogenic forms inhabiting mucosal surfaces esp. of the oral cavity of warm-blooded vertebrates
ac-ti-no-my-cete \-mī-sēt-, -mī-sē- *n* [ultim. fr. Gk *aktin-, aktis* + *mykēt-, mykēs*] (1911): any of an order (Actinomycetales) of filamentous or rod-shaped bacteria (as the actinomycetes and streptomycetes) — *ac-ti-no-my-ce-tous* \-mī-sē-təs- *adj*
ac-ti-no-my-cin \-mī-sī-n- *n* (1940): any of various red or yellow-red mostly toxic polypeptide antibiotics isolated from soil bacteria (esp. *Streptomyces antibioticus*); *specif*: one used to inhibit DNA or RNA synthesis
ac-ti-no-my-co-sis \əkt-ṭi-kō-sos- *n* [NL] (1882): infection with or disease caused by actinomycetes; esp.: a chronic disease of cattle, swine, and humans characterized by hard granulomatous masses usu. in the mouth and jaw — *ac-ti-no-my-co-tic* \-kāk-ṭik- *adi*

\əbʊt \əˈkɪtən, F table \ərˈfʊðə \əˈʃɑːʃ \əˈleɪs \əˈmɒp, mɑː
 \aʊt \tʃɪˈn \etˈbet \eɪˈzi \gɒˈgo \hɪˈt \aɪˈs \dʒɪˈb
 \ŋˈsɪŋ \dɒˈgo \dɒˈlɔː \ɔɪˈbɔɪ \θɪˈn \tʃeɪˈtʃ ðə ˈfʊːt ˈfʊːt
 \jɪˈt \vɪʒən \ə, k, æ, ɑː, ɔː, ʊ, ʊː, ʔ see Guide to Pronunciation